



Chancellor's Report

Chancellor John Pugh

uas.alaska.edu/chancellor
April 2014 Meeting

TINA'A Art Auction

UAS was one of many sponsors of a Sealaska Heritage Institute art auction at Centennial Hall February 1.

The Tina'a Art Auction of traditional Southeast Alaska Native art raised more than \$300,000 for a new Walter Soboleff Center under construction on Front Street in downtown Juneau. The sponsorship was in line with an MOA between UAS and SHI which outlines ways to provide educational opportunities for students, faculty, and staff. "We had faculty with art in the auction and students who were managing the event, working on the fashion show, and providing support the evening of the event. It was an incredible demonstration of the partnership we have developed with SHI," wrote Chancellor John Pugh. Tina'a means copper shield which represents wealth and trade in Tlingit.



UAS Tlingit student Will Geiger (L) assisted with the auction.

NWCCU Accreditation Reaffirmed

UAS has received notice that its regional accreditation has been reaffirmed by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). In notifying Chancellor John Pugh of reaccreditation, NWCCU President Dr. Sandra Elman commended UAS for effective integration of its mission and core themes throughout the institution. Chancellor Pugh expressed appreciation to the Commission for its action and emphasized that UAS will continue to focus on high quality education that leads to student completion and success. UAS received notification of its reaccreditation following preparation of a report focusing on its resources and capacities in meeting its mission. The Chancellor expressed appreciation to UAS faculty and staff who helped prepare the report and who regularly provide quality instruction and advising.

UA Legislative Affairs Conference

Forty students from all over Alaska participated in the annual UA Legislative Affairs conference February 1-4, 2014.



Students met with legislators and the office of Governor Sean Parnell. This year's theme was "Helping Build Alaska's Future". Here they are with Governor Parnell.

Alaska Native Studies Conference March 14-17 at UAS

Growing Our Own: Indigenous Research, Scholars, & Education was the theme of the second annual Alaska Native Studies Conference held on the UAS Juneau campus March 14-17. The Alaska Native Studies Council and the University of Alaska hosted the event focusing on Alaska Native Studies research and activism of the past, present, and future. Keynote speakers were Dr. Jo-Ann Archibald, Associate Dean for Indigenous Education, University of British Columbia Vancouver and Dr. Malia Villegas, Director of Research Policy, National Congress of American Indians. Archibald's book, *Indigenous Storywork: Education the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit*, uses the metaphor of Indigenous basket weaving to introduce readers to Indigenous ways of understanding knowledge. Dr. Villegas has a strong network across the Indigenous Pacific and is a leader in community-based participatory research and involved in major policy in the areas of Indigenous methodologies and research.

The Alaska Native Studies Council promotes a deeper and more sustained commitment to integrating Indigenous perspectives into a variety of educational settings. The mission is to identify, develop, and implement Native-focused curricula, to promote and publish Alaska Native-related research and pedagogical strategies, to reshape the University of Alaska into an Alaska Native serving institution, and to develop a strategic plan to attain these goals. Last year's conference at UAA saw presentations by some of the foremost scholars in Alaska Native Studies and Languages.

Klein and Cortes Garner Industry Honors

Please join us in congratulating UAS Web Coordinator Dave Klein and Ryan Cortes.

Klein's work on the streaming/on demand content for the Tlingit Conversations website won a top Gold Award in the Education Digital Marketing Awards competition. The annual contest is held by the *Higher Education Marketing Report*. The site is for the Tlingit Conversation Documentation Project, 2007-2013 Alaska Languages Program, where in a project team of UAS Tlingit faculty and students and fluent Tlingit elders produced subtitled videos for language learners.

Student photographer Ryan Cortes also picked up an award in the same competition. His web video, *A Climber's Journey to Mathematics* featuring UAS alum and Learning Center testing supervisor Gabe Wechter earned a Merit award.

A Ketchikan Campus Partnership

The group toured SSEATEC's new dormitory in Ketchikan and discussed potential shared use of facilities.



John Brown, SSEATEC Education Director (Southern Southeast Alaska Technical Education Center), and Camille Booth, KIC (Ketchikan Indian Community) Education Director recently met with Provost Rick Caulfield and UAS Ketchikan Campus Director Priscilla Schulte. A partnership agreement with KIC and SSEATEC in offering aligned career and technical education programs. The group toured SSEATEC's new dormitory in Ketchikan and discussed potential shared use of facilities.

School of Management Faculty Wins UA Professorship

Assistant professor of accounting Julie Hamilton is the recipient of the University of Alaska Foundation 2014 Harold T. Caven Professorship. The two-year professorship includes a \$20,000 award. Hamilton plans to use the award to provide real-life experiences in tax preparation to her accounting students. Hamilton will teach

her students community tax preparation services skills through the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites. UAS students taking a higher-level class on income taxes are required to complete VITA training. They can gain practicum credits for their work at the Juneau site or any remote VITA site. Hamilton has 25 years of experience in the accounting field, including preparing tax returns.

InVIGORating Shipbuilding Workforce

In late 2013, Vigor Alaska teamed up the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) and the UAS Ketchikan campus to create an industry-led training program. Vigor Industrial is a privately-held shipbuilding and repair company based in Portland, Oregon investing in training workers for the American shipbuilding industry. Vigor worked with UAS to modify the existing math curriculum to meet the most pressing skills needs at the shipyard, to provide the flexibility to adapt to changing workforce needs, and to allow workers to advance in specific vocational skills. The first class January 28-February 19 focused on basic shop math skills. The next level of classes began February 25 and builds on the basic math foundation to teach skills including welding, blueprint reading, basic refrigeration (a key component of systems on vessels, including catcher-processor fishing boats), and introduction to marine electrical systems. UAS faculty teach blueprint reading and refrigeration, while Vigor workers teach welding and introduction to marine electrical systems. The classroom portions of the classes will be taught at the UAS-Ketchikan Campus and those requiring hands-on practice will take place at the Ketchikan Shipyard. The program was launched with the help of a \$54,000 grant from the AWIB designed to support efforts and upgrade knowledge and skills of industrial workers supporting the oil and gas sector in Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska.

UAS Engaged in Transboundary Forest Science and Management Dialogue

UAS, the Alaska Coastal Rainforest Center (ACRC), and the USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station are joining with the British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the Hakai Network for Coastal People, Ecosystems and Management at Simon Fraser University in a series of cross-boundary research meetings. The first meetings were held in Juneau in 2011 and 2012 to provide a forum for coordination and integration of data and scientific work across the north coastal temperate rainforest. February 27-28 a subset of participants met at Simon Fraser University to discuss the research plan of the Bog Forest Program at the Hakai Institute, and how this can be tied in with similar work in Southeast Alaska. In addition to Canadian, UAS, ACRC, and the USFS scientists, participants include the Nature Conservancy, the North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Stanford University, Oregon State University, and the University of Washington.